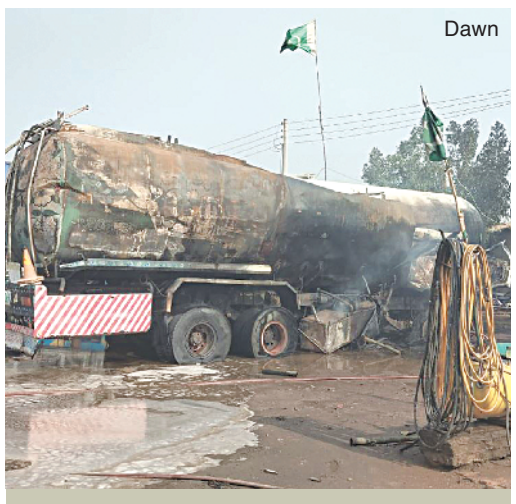

Dawn

Four die as oil-tanker catches fire at workshop

By Our Correspondent

RAHIM YAR KHAN: Four young men succumbed to their critical burns they suffered when an empty oil-tanker caught fire during welding work near Muslim Chowk on the National Highway, some 15kms from here, on Friday.

According to Rescue 1122 sources, they were informed around 11am that an oil-tanker, brought to a welding shopnear Muslim Chowk on the National Highway for repairs caught fire, resulting in some casualties.

They say that the tanker caught fire during the welding process. As a result, four men who were repairing the tanker suffered critical burns.

Rescue 1122 firefighters and medical teams reached the spot and shifted the critically burnt men to the Sheikh Zayed Medical College Hospital, where all were pronounced dead.

The firefighters controlled the massive blaze after two-hour-long efforts, they say.

The deceased men were identified as Maqbool (22), a resident of Jamaldin Wali, Sajjad (22), Shehzad Ahmed (18) of Badli Sharif and Fazal Ahmed of Bast Gujjran Akbarabad, Rahim Yar Khan.

As per administration, the estimated cost of the vehicle that was burnt was Rs13 million.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Zaheer Anwar Jappa visited the site of the incident where people told him that the welding process was in progress when the empty oil-tanker caught fire, resulting is bang.

The DC instructed the officials concerned to conducted a probe and ascertain the cause of the the fire incident.

Faisalabad by-elections

ECP fines Talal, summons Sanaullah

Independent candidate contesting by-election against Talal's brother claims police being used to harass his supporters

By Our Correspondent

TOBA TEK SINGH: Federal Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry was fined Rs50,000 on Friday, while Senator Rana Sanaullah has been summoned for violating the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) code of conduct in the by-elections of two National Assembly and three Punjab Assembly constituencies to be held on Sunday (tomorrow).

In his letter to the ECP secretary, Faisalabad District Monitoring Officer (DMO) Muhammad Murtaza Malik wrote that two notices were issued to Mr Chaudhry and he was also telephonically told about his repetitive violations of the code of conduct, but he failed to comply with the orders. A fine of Rs50,000 had been imposed on him as per the Election Act, 2017, he added.

He said that the matter was being forwarded to the ECP as per the law for taking further necessary action against him.

Meanwhile, the DMO has also issued a notice to Senator Rana Sanaullah for violating ECP's code of conduct on Friday.

The notice said that Mr Sanaullah had attended a rally of his son-in-law and PML-N ticket holder for PP-116 Rana Shehryar on Nov 20. The DMO has summoned Mr Sanaullah on Saturday (today) to submit an explanation.

In NA-96, former MNA and independent candidate Malik Nawab Sher Waseer claimed that the Jaranwala police had been harassing his supporters on the behest of Mr Chaudhry and forcing them to support his own brother, PML-N candidate Bilal Badar Chaudhry.

Addressing a meeting of his supporters on Thursday night in Jaranwala, he claimed that one of his group's main leaders, Shahbaz Kalyar, was arrested on the 'fake' charge of attacking the house of a PML-N supporter.

He claimed that no such incident ever took place. He said the ruling party was worried after seeing public support for him and were adopting unlawful actions against his workers.

Meanwhile, all independent candidates of all five national and provincial constituencies are claiming that they are being backed by the PTI leadership. It is pertinent to mention that the PTI has announced the boycott of this by-elections and no other political party is contesting the by-elections against the PML-N nominees.

Kidnappers killed during encounter to recover TikToker's father

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Muzaffargarh police claimed on Friday to have killed four suspects allegedly involved in kidnapping the father of a social media vlogger three days ago.

TikToker Vella Munda, Muhammad Shehzad Malana of Chowk Munda's father Sadiq Hussain Malana was kidnapped from his house six days ago. Vella Munda and his wife were in Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah at the time of the incident.

He appealed to the chief minister on social media from Saudi Arabia to take measures to recover his father safely. He also appealed to the kidnappers to release his father immediately.

Meanwhile, in an intelligence-based operation, a police team conducted a raid at the hideout of the alleged kidnappers in the Thal desert.

Police claimed that in an exchange of fire, four suspected kidnappers Naveed, Jamshaid, Muddassir and Saleem were killed and one of their accomplices fled the scene.

The police team succeeded in recovering the abductee late on Thursday night and shifted him to the city.

Muzaffargarh District Police Officer (DPO) Ghazanfar Ali Shah told *Dawn* that the abductee was recovered in an intelligence-based operation in the Thal desert.

He said that one of the kidnappers fled the scene after taking advantage of the darkness, while four others were killed in an encounter.

Vella Munda is a well-known vlogger from south Punjab.

JI attracts crowds to its *Ijtima-i-Aam*

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A substantial crowd from across the country gathered at Iqbal Park as Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) kicked off its *Ijtima-i-Aam* with over 150 delegates from 45 countries here on Friday.

JI Emir Hafiz Naeemur Rehman, while delivering the keynote address said, "Those who are advocating and lobbying for the controversial 27th Amendment, need to know that there is no immunity for anyone in the system run by Allah Almighty".

Civil and military bureaucracy both were a part of the problem in Pakistan, he said and urged both to let politics take its natural course.

"We have assembled in this historic park to resolve to bring justice to our country. The three-day event will kick off a new phase in the political history of Pakistan," he said, adding that the Pakistan Resolution was passed in this park and now the nation had resolved to ensure a just system of governance based on Islamic principles in the country.

On the occasion, he said the nation would not compromise on Kashmir. He said, "We supported the government during the skirmishes with India, whereas some quarters were settling scores with the government and the establishment by shifting their support to India against the Pakistani government. However, we want to make it clear that we won't compromise on the cause of Kashmir."

He said the Kashmiri freedom fighters had the right to launch an armed struggle against Indian occupation and to get their homeland free under international laws.

"Supporting the US resolution on Gaza will lead Islamabad to nowhere," he said. Quaid-e-Azam had already stated that Israel was an illegitimate child of the West. In the 1940s, two resolutions were passed at the same event in Iqbal Park; one was called the Pakistan Resolution and the other was for the cause of Palestine, he recalled. "Keep in mind we won't let you make Pakistan a puppet for the US again," he warned. "Don't even think about joining the Ibrahim Accord, otherwise, you will become a horrible example and thrown in the dustbin of history," he said.

Talking about local issues, he said that land reforms were crucial as only three percent of the landlords were facilitated and the rest were exploited.

LHC concerned at excessive construction in Lahore

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Friday expressed concern over excessive construction taking place in the city, declaring it a main source of contribution to pollution.

Hearing several identical petitions regarding smog and environmental pollution, Justice Shahid Karim observed that the anti-smog gun would be of no use under these circumstances. He noted that the environment department had extensive powers only if it chooses to use them.

The judge further remarked that the Air Quality Index (AQI) was also high because of smoke-emitting vehicles.

He expressed concern over the vehicles causing pollution and ordered that environmental squads must be visible on the roads for the next two weeks.

Justice Karim pointed out that the vehicles coming from Karachi were causing increased smoke and a higher AQI on GT Road. He said many vehicles on the roads were still emitting smoke.

The judge also sought a report on the failure to enforce time restrictions for commercial activities. He expressed dissatisfaction over the slow pace of the Water and Sanitation Authority (Wasa) on the installation of water meters and sought a progress report on the matter.

The judge also sought a report on the Miyawaki forests planted in various areas, including Johar Town.

During the hearing, a counsel for the Parks and Horticulture Authority gave an undertaking to the court that if the authority cut even a single tree, he would resign. **— Staff Reporter**

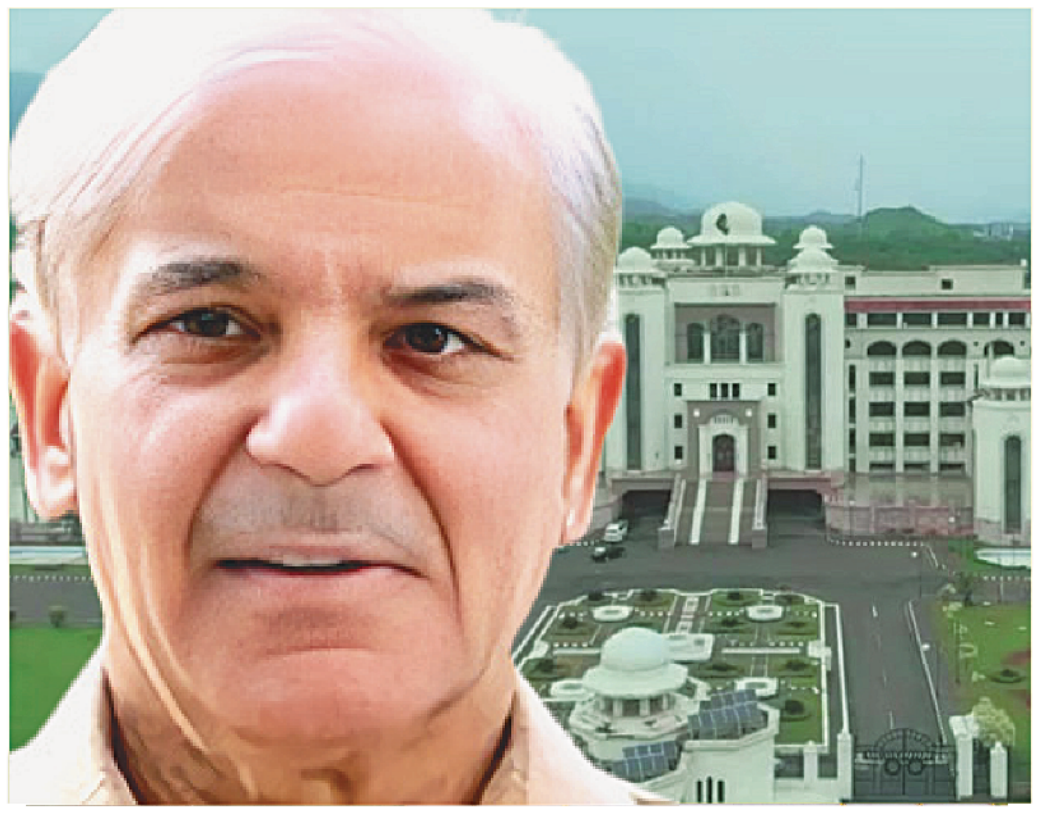
INAUGURAL SESSION

At the Pakistan Population Summit 2025

"Identifying a sustainable balance between the growth of population and of our existing natural resources is critical to fulfill the needs of Pakistan's teeming millions. Not even resource-rich countries can successfully contain the negative impacts of a major population explosion."

Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif

PROF. AHSAN IQBAL CHAUDHARY
MINISTER FOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT


MIAN MUHAMMAD SHEHBAZ SHARIF
PRIME MINISTER OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

DR. MALIK MUKHTAR AHMAD BHARATH
MINISTER OF STATE, NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

10:00 AM, DEC 1

Session one of The Pakistan Population Summit 2025 brings together the country's top leadership to set the tone for two days of meaningful dialogue on population, development, and national wellbeing. The session begins at 10:00 AM sharp. Session Chair, Professor Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, will guide the opening discourse, leading into the event's keynote moment: a visionary address by His Excellency, Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on the urgent need to align population policies with sustainable growth. The session concludes with closing remarks by Dr. Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Minister of State for National Health Services, Regulation & Coordination, underscoring the national commitment to evidence-based planning and long-term resilience. The audience is expected to be seated half an hour before the Prime Minister's address.

SCAN TO VIEW AGENDA

DM DawnMedia

THE PAKISTAN Population SUMMIT

PRINCIPAL PARTNERS — SUPPORTING PARTNER — STRATEGIC PARTNER — KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS — RESEARCH PARTNERS

Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan; Government of Pakistan, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination; UK International Development; WORLD BANK GROUP; POPULATION COUNCIL Ideas. Evidence. Impact.; PATHFINDER; QZ CATALYST; psi; UNFPA; Ipsos; acumen; RM Repu